



# FHS NEWS

MARCH 2024

## SCIENCE WEEK 2024

**W**e celebrated another successful and inspiring Science Week at Featherstone.

We were once again joined by Lord Professor Winston, who thrilled our Sixth Formers and guests from other schools with tales of medical school and his long career, and offered great advice. We also welcomed the Animal Roadshow, the Birdman and Dr Ken with his innovative circus show, all of whom really brought science to life. More photos inside.



### JACK PETCHEY

**F**eatherstone High Student Shines in Public Speaking Challenge

We had two speakers competing at the Regional Final: Zaeem with his thought provoking speech on 'The power of words' and Abshiro who delivered a powerful speech titled "Empower, Embrace, and Excel," which earned her a well-deserved third place. Her performance was a testament to her ability to connect with the audience and communicate her experiences effectively. Both students demonstrated great resilience and challenge in delivering their speeches to a wider audience.



## MUSIC GROUP SUCCESS

**T**he Music Department entered a band into a competition as part of the Croydon Performing Arts Festival 2024. They performed in front of a panel of esteemed judges and won!

The judges were so impressed with our students' performance that they have asked them to perform at a gala concert held in the famous Croydon Fairfield Halls on Saturday May 25th.

Reflecting on her experience, Abshiro said, *"This experience pushed me out of my comfort zone in the best way possible. It allowed me to connect with the audience, to bond, and to share not only my experiences but also those of my mother. It was a genuine opportunity for communication. I loved this experience."*



CARE

RESPECT

CHALLENGE

RESILIENCE

PARTNERSHIP

INCLUSION

# HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

## THE FHS VALUES UNDERPIN OUR WHOLE SCHOOL



Our values are up on the wall of our school. Every day our values underpin what we do here. They are at the heart of our rewards and behaviour system. They are mentioned weekly in assemblies, and they adorn the wall of our main hall too.

Mahatma Gandhi said,

“Your beliefs become your thoughts,  
Your thoughts become your words,  
Your words become your actions,  
Your actions become your habits,  
Your habits become your values,  
Your values become your destiny.”

Every line carries profound meaning but look at that last line. Your values become your destiny. If that is true, and I have no

doubt that it is, our students will go on to be the most caring, respectful, resilient and inclusive people who love a challenge and can work well in all types of partnership. Now, that is a wonderful thing to become, and a wonderful path to tread. Every day we will continue!

**Mr Walters, Headteacher**



## ZEN BUS

All aboard! The Zen Bus visited FHS and allowed students and staff to experience a little bit of calm during a busy school day.

Selected students were given the chance to board the old American school bus and experience relaxation techniques and get some zen tips!



## SOCIOLOGY WORKSHOP

Year 12 sociology students had the opportunity to use their sociological skills to design and market their theoretical new schools based on social

policies, rules and educational programmes.

Each group's school was judged by their peers and teachers. Well done to all for showcasing your ideas.

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CARE

RESPECT

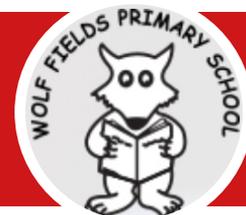
CHALLENGE

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# A 'HELLO' TO FEATHERSTONE HIGH SCHOOL FROM WOLF FIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL!



**M**any 'Wolf Fields' children annually transfer to Year 7 at Featherstone High School and so we share much in common with our community of learners.

At Wolf Fields, our ethos and vision is encapsulated in our school motto:

**Worth Opportunity  
Learning Friendship**

In this way, all of our lovely children are challenged to achieve their potential in a caring, safe and supportive environment.

Wolf Fields School's continued drive for high academic standards is evident throughout the school and our community is rightly proud of its success, having maintained excellent results for many years.

In 2023, the progress made by our KS2 cohort in Reading, Writing and Maths

was 'well above average' and in the top 10% of schools nationally.

Wolf Fields School currently has places in both Nursery and Reception classes for children aged 3 to 5 years.

If interested, please feel most welcome to visit our wonderful Early Years facilities set amid picturesque grounds with large play areas and surrounding wildlife areas: [www.wolffieldsprimary.co.uk](http://www.wolffieldsprimary.co.uk)

## Progress score in reading, writing and maths ?

The academic progress that pupils make from the end of key stage 1 to the end of key stage 2.

### Reading

The banding for this school is 'well above average' because the score is greater than or equal to 3.1, and the entire confidence interval is above 0.

**Banding**

**WELL ABOVE AVERAGE**

**Score**

3.7

**Confidence interval ?**

1.2 to 6.3

### Writing

The banding for this school is 'well above average' because the score is greater than or equal to 2.9, and the entire confidence interval is above 0.

**Banding**

**WELL ABOVE AVERAGE**

**Score**

3.8

**Confidence interval ?**

1.4 to 6.3

### Maths

The banding for this school is 'well above average' because the score is greater than or equal to 3.2, and the entire confidence interval is above 0.

**Banding**

**WELL ABOVE AVERAGE**

**Score**

3.2

**Confidence interval ?**

0.8 to 5.6

[www.wolffieldsprimary.co.uk](http://www.wolffieldsprimary.co.uk)

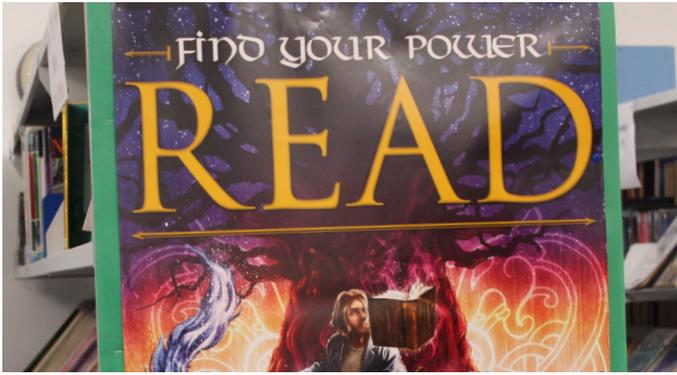




# FHS LIBRARY NEWS



## A DAY IN THE LIFE!



**READING BUDDIES**



**LIBRARY LESSONS**



**COMPUTERS**



**STUDYING**



**CHESS**



**READING ROOM**



**COLOURING**



**ISSUE BOOKS**



**DISPLAYS**



**BOOK FAIR**



**SPECIAL EVENTS**



**RETURN BOOKS**



**READING LISTS**



**NEW BOOKS**

# INTERNATIONAL DEBATE

Last half term, six Year 11 students participated in an online debate against a school in Malaysia.

Having been shortlisted in the first round, earlier on in the year, the Year 11 students: Risha, Ruby, Areena, Salmaan, Hamid and Mahmood were set the challenging task of debating in opposition to a Malaysian school's proposition 'This house believes that Climate change is an inevitable disaster'. Despite the fact that half way through the debate there was a fire drill – our team held their own in an unenviable task, exploring the impact and reaction of climate change in our present time.

The judges were impressed with the outcome of the first ever debate organised by Picture News and Asti (Association of Science and Technology Malaysia) and commended both teams for their contributions in making it an engaging and informative debate, which the Malaysian team won overall.

The students thoroughly enjoyed their first international debate, developing their debating skills, exchanging contacts and making new friends across the miles. It was a unique experience and a wonderful opportunity to exchange ideas with students on the other side of the world.

WATCH IT HERE: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IERwzJ2iu8U>



# FRENCH INTERACTIVE PLAY

At the end of January, Year 9 and 10 students enjoyed an hilarious French play featuring five characters in a locked art room.

Two talented actors portrayed all roles, delivering a storyline that blended

relatability and humour. Adding an interactive twist, three of our students, Husnain, Mohammad and Rumaitha joined the stage for extra fun. The play provided our students with a valuable opportunity to refine their French listening skills. A delightful performance that brought joy and laughter to our students.



# DRAMA TRIPS

On the 17th January Mr Crossling led a trip to see The Witches, at the National Theatre for the Year 7-10 students who had taken part in the school musical.

One student, Soniya, said, 'It was amazing, one of the best shows I've seen!' The story was scary in places, but the students loved it and said the set and design elements were brilliant. The students were commended on their excellent behaviour throughout. Thanks to the staff who supported the trip and well done to the students.



The Drama department ran an inaugural trip on Monday 22nd January for Year 10 and 11 students to take part in the National Theatre's Student Conference.

The day consisted of talks and discussions with theatre critic, Lyn Gardner, and devising theatre company Gecko theatre, who then performed their heart wrenching performance, Kin, in the evening. The show was about migration, and the difficulties people face when having to move countries, and their loss of identity and struggles fitting in. The show was performed in 8 different languages! There was a Q&A with the performance team after the show and this was an invaluable experience for our students.



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# REFUGEE EDUCATION UK

We were delighted that Hamid Khan, from the charity Refugee Education UK, was able to speak with nine of our Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 students on Wednesday 7th February.

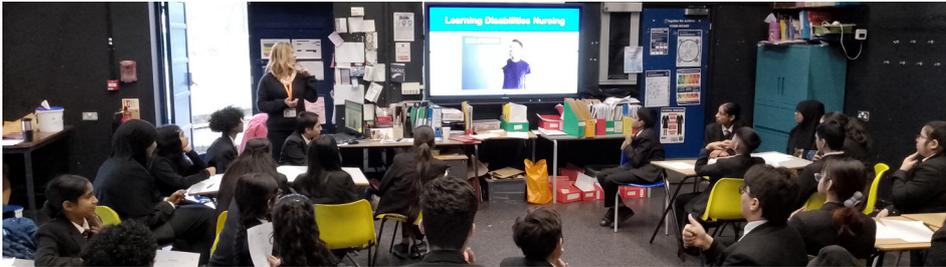
Hamid came to the UK as a refugee from Afghanistan and shared his educational journey with us. He inspired our students to know that they

can overcome barriers and can achieve their goals, just like he has done. Hamid discussed the importance of education and next steps after students have completed their exams at school, and students were able to ask questions such as: "is university free or not?" and: "how can I study an apprenticeship?". The students left the session feeling inspired and motivated to aim high and achieve their dreams. Visit [www.reuk.org](http://www.reuk.org) for more information on this inspiring charity.

# NHS CAREERS WORKSHOP

Fifty students from Year 8 took part in a half day workshop exploring the range of career opportunities the NHS offers to qualified nurses.

After exploring several different specialisms, the students learnt how to say their name using British Sign Language. An experienced nurse joined the students to answer a range of questions exploring the reality of being a nurse in the 21st Century.



# GLOBE MODELS

Year 7s have made some lovely models of the Globe Theatre as part of their English Lessons.



# TERM DATES

## SPRING TERM 2024

End of term: Thursday 28 March 2024

Easter holiday: Friday 29 March to Friday 12 April 2024

## SUMMER TERM 2024

Start of term: Monday 15 April 2024  
May Day (Bank Holiday): Monday 6 May 2024

Half-term: Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May 2024

On line learning day and Pupil Induction Day 2 for Year 6: Friday 28th June 2024

End of term: Wednesday 24th July 2024

Visit our website for the full calendar: <https://www.featherstonehigh.ealing.sch.uk/schoolcalendar>

# VISIT TO GSK

Applied Science students in year 12 visited the global headquarters of biopharma company GSK in Brentford.

After touring the landmark office building the students had the opportunity to quiz apprentices and staff about working for the company and the career opportunities available. GSK set the students a manufacturing challenge simulating production methods employed across the world.



# BUSINESS AMBASSADORS

We want to offer huge thanks to the Business Ambassadors who joined our Year 12s to offer advice and support.

First hand experience of the job world is so important and our ambassadors spoke with students about jobs roles, different employers and offered valuable careers advice. Thank you to all involved.



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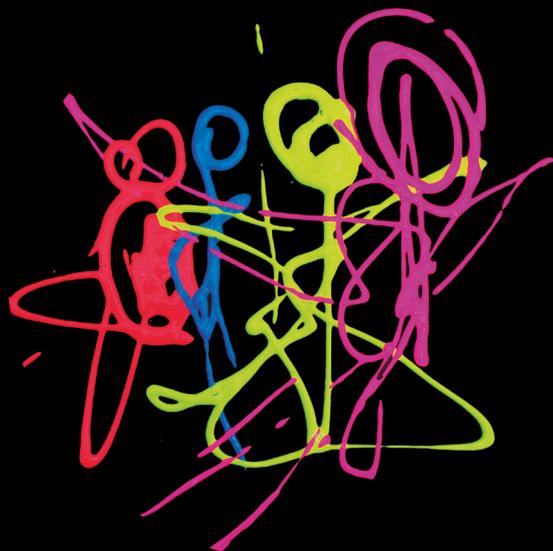
# DANCE FESTIVAL 2024

## WED 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

### 5pm Main School Hall

**TICKETS: £2 from EVENTBRITE**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/featherstone-high-school-dance-festival-tickets-852246210357>



**Students need to attend with an adult**



dance



drama



music



fhs performing arts